

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A wire-stripping plier that automatically adapts to various wire gauges and insulation thicknesses, comprising:

~~automatic adaptation to various wire gauges and insulation thicknesses with~~ two pairs of pivotable jaws of which the jaws of a first, outer pair are configured as gripper jaws (33) which are pivotable by means of a first jaw plier arm (1) and a jaw part (3) about a common pivot point (5), and the jaws of the other, inner pair that are configured as cutting jaws (41) with blades that cut into the insulation, and with a pull rod (43) attached to the ~~outer~~ cutting jaws (41) and longitudinally moveable within the jaw body providing the stripping motion that is coupled with a second plier arm (7) via a link (9), wherein

at least one sliding wedge (13, 23) is mounted in a recess shaped to match the sliding wedge (13, 23) ~~within, the recess located in the first plier arm (1) or in the jaw part (3), whereby~~ wherein a first sliding wedge (15, 25) surface facing the cutting jaws is flat and a second sliding wedge (17, 27) surface resting in the recess is so shaped that the separation distance between both sliding wedges at wedge surfaces decreases from a central area of the sliding wedge (13, 23) diminishes toward at least one of the two sliding wedge ends, and wherein

squeezing the wire-stripping plier causes longitudinal displacement of the sliding wedge (13, 23) along with simultaneous matching of position of the sliding wedge (13, 23) perpendicular to the longitudinal direction that results in cutting-depth adjustment of the cutting jaws (41) and the cutting blade (37) attached to ~~it~~ the cutting jaws.

2. (Currently Amended) A wire-stripping plier according to Claim 1, wherein a first sliding wedge (13) is mounted in a first recess in the first plier arm (1), and a second sliding wedge (23) is mounted in a recess in the jaw part (3), and wherein the second surfaces (17, 27) of the sliding wedge (13, 23) are bow-shaped.

3. (Currently Amended) A wire-stripping plier according to Claim 2, wherein the first sliding wedge (13) is connected with the jaw part (3) and the second sliding wedge (23) is connected

with the first plier arm via a second coupling rod ~~(29)~~, and that, when the wire-stripping plier is compressed, the jaw part ~~(3)~~ is displaced longitudinally, while simultaneously the second coupling rod ~~(29)~~ holds the second sliding wedge ~~(23)~~ firmly, the jaw part ~~(3)~~ is extended outward by the movement about the second sliding wedge ~~(23)~~ and thus corresponding adaptation of the second sliding wedge ~~(23)~~ results from this relative displacement.

4. (Currently Amended) A wire-stripping plier according to Claim 1, wherein the side of the ~~utter-cutting~~ jaws ~~(41)~~ facing the sliding wedge ~~(13, 23)~~ includes a first projection ~~(51)~~ to create a point-shaped arrangement of the ~~utter-cutting~~ jaws ~~(41)~~ on the sliding-wedge surface ~~(15, 25)~~ and a second projection ~~(53)~~ that centers the middle position of the moving ~~utter-cutting~~ jaws.

5. (Currently Amended) A wire-stripping plier according to Claim 1, wherein each of the gripper jaws ~~(33)~~ possesses a raised gripper tooth ~~(47)~~, and wherein the raised gripper tooth ~~(47)~~ and the ~~utter-cutting~~ blade ~~(37)~~ include one-sided mirror-image angled cutting strips.

6. (Currently Amended) A wire-stripping plier according to Claim 1, wherein the shape of the second surfaces ~~(17, 27)~~ causes a slight longitudinal displacement of the sliding-wedge surfaces ~~(17, 27)~~, which leads to a slight opening of the ~~utter-cutting~~ blades ~~(37)~~ as the ~~utter-cutting~~ jaws ~~(41)~~ glide during the stripping process.

7. (Currently Amended) A wire-stripping plier according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~utter-cutting~~ blade ~~(37)~~ is attached to the ~~utter-jawcutting jaw~~ holders ~~(41)~~ so that it may be removed.

8. (Currently Amended) A wire-stripping plier according to Claim 1, wherein the gripper jaws ~~(33)~~ are mounted in receiver jaws ~~(59)~~ so that they may be removed, and wherein the separation of the gripper jaws ~~(33)~~ is adjustable with respect to the gripping plane.

9. (Currently Amended) A wire-stripping plier according to Claim 1, wherein a wire cutter ~~(45)~~ is positioned between the first plier arm ~~(1)~~ and the second plier arm ~~(7)~~.